

Neighborhood Planning Assembly Draft Minutes



NPA:
(choose one)

Wards 1 & 8	Wards 2 & 3	Wards 4 & 7	Ward 5	Ward 6
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Date of Assembly : 5/26/21

Start Time: (Commence): 7:00 PM

Location: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85494151752>

Finish Time: (Adjourn): 9:15 PM

Note taker: Liam Daugherty

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Ward 4: Eric Corbman, Jeff Clark, Evan Litwin

Ward 7: Jeff Comstock

Discussion Topics

- 7:10 - 7:35 - Elected Officials
- 7:50 - 8:05 - Reappraisal: Status of Assessment Reviews and Board of Tax Appeal Procedures
- 8:20 - 8:30 - Burlington High School Update
- 8:40 - 8:50 Police Chief Search

Actions Taken / Decisions Made

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Attendees:

Al Belluche (he/him)	jeffcomstock	Nancy
Alan Bjerke	Jenny Tomczak	Nancy Furlong
Ali Dieng (He/His)	John Eisenmann	Olivia (Muffie) she /her
arthurfrank		Rebecca Kaplan
Birgit	John Vickery City Assessor	Ricardo Andrés Blanco Ramírez
Carol Hinson		Riley
Carol Ode	Keegan Carter	Salissa
CEDO NPAs	Kendra Sowers	Sarah Carpenter
Chi Wong	Kerry Swift	Shanta Eastman
connie ramsey	Lea Terhune	sharon
Deb Bouton	Lindsey	Stephanie Seguino
Eric and Karen Corbman	Martha Molpus	Stephen hamlin ward 7
Evan Litwin	Martine Gulick	sylvia Knight
Jack Ramsey	Melo Grant	TJ Jemison (he/him)
Jeff Clark	Miro Weinberger	Town Meeting TV

Agenda Items and Actions:

- I. 7:00 - 7:10 - Welcome, Ground Rules, and Introductions
- II. 7:10 - 7:35 - Elected Officials (State Representatives, City Councilors)
 - a. Carol Ode: Spoke on COVID recovery uses of funds. Some of the things that funds went to were: housing, transportation, climate change. Also spoke on the job loss in Vermont due to COVID, and how unemployment insurance was influenced by that.
 - b. Ali Dieng: Discussed the councils work and vote on the electric rate for the city/
 - c. Sarah Carpenter: Talked about work on the city's budget; trying to return to pre-pandemic levels, ARPA funds usage, adding park rangers, and adding funds for mental health programs. Also mentioned improving accessibility for Leddy Park, the Aging Council, and the fact that the Charter Changes will be re-visited when the Senate reconvenes in January.
- III. 7:35 - 7:50 - Q & A Time
 - a. The representatives took some comments from the participants, along with questions regarding the openings on the boards and commissions, city resolutions, the BED rate increase timeline.
- IV. 7:50 - 8:05 - Reappraisal: Status of Assessment Reviews and Board of Tax Appeal Procedures - John Vickery, Burlington City Assessor
 - a. Gives updates on the city-wide re-appraisal. He provides a timeline for the final stages of the appraisal, and gives some clarification on the homestead tax rate, among other rates. He mentions a residential manual that is available on the city assessor's website for folks to use to understand the math involved in the process.
- V. 8:05 - 8:20 - Q & A Time
 - a. Answers questions about Tyler Technologies, the Co-Op, the estimated tax rate on the re-appraisal project page, appeals for the appraisal, the number of people aggrieved, the differences between businesses and home appraisals, among several others.
- VI. 8:20 - 8:30 - Burlington High School Update - Martine Gulick & Kendra Sowers
 - a. Kendra Sowers: Updates on the report generated by the Equity and Inclusion board, looking at the progress related to six social equity goals. Also speaks on assessing on student's needs related to 3 categories which will then generate a plan to move forward. Also speaks on the end of the school year, that graduation is happening in person, and that masks are still required.
 - b. Martine Gulick: Talks about the school board recently stopping the BHS re-envisioning, the history of the re-envisioning process, the consulting firm hired to find other sites suitable for the new high school, the process for finding the sites, and the timeline for the site-finding process.
- VII. 8:30 - 8:40 - Q & A Time
 - a. Martine and Kendra answer questions related to recouping the some of the loss through a re-sell of the BHS site, discussions with South Burlington, splitting the high school and technical center, among others.
- VIII. 8:40 - 8:50 - Mayor Weinberger - Police Chief Search
 - a. Mayor Weinberger discusses re-opening the police chief search after the election. He speaks on adding the component of public outreach and input through surveys and public meetings in this police chief search. After the listening effort, a report will be published about moving forward with the search.
 - b. The mayor also spoke on the FY22 budget process with increased federal funding allowing for the re-instatement of government services and programs that had been cut during COVID. Also talks on new investments in racial equality, language access, living wages, and balancing the budget.
 - c. Answers questions from the participants on the outreach process, what changes could be made in this search process related to previous search process, and took comments and concerns from the community about the effectiveness of this outreach process.
- IX. 8:50 - 9:00 - Q & A Time

Please Remember to Enter Adjournment Time!